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ISSUES DECREE ON PRICE CONTROL

The following decree on price control has just been issued by the f'ederal government:

All measures on price control are to be carried out by the Federal Ministry of Finance and the Council for the Turnover of Goods. All previous organizations for the control of prices are hereby abolished. These organizations include: the Federal Price Office, republic price offices, and the price offices of the srez executive councils. Price offices have been established under the jurisdiction of the federal and republic councils for the turnover of goods and srez commerce and procurement administrations.

The fixing of state crop-purchase prices and lower individual selling prices of most important products for general consumption is to be under the jurisdiction of the federal government. The federal Minister of Finance shall determine the selling prices of raw materials, semifinished products, finished products, and imported products. He has the authority to empower the republic ministries of finance to fix these prices.

The fixing of crop-purchase prices of other agricultural products and lower individual prices of other general consumption products is to be under the jurisdiction of the Federal Council for the Turnover of Goods. The Chairman of the Council for the Turnover of Goods shell determine the highest prices at which agricultural products may be purchased on the free market, as well as the highest prices at which individual general-consumption products may be sold on the free market. With the concurrence of the federal Minister of Finance, the Chairman of the Council for the Turnove of Goods may authorize republic ministers of commerce and procurement to fix price ceilings for individual items. Srez financial administrations are authorized to fix the selling prices of products of local industry and private artisans. Srez commerce and procurement administrations are authorized to fix the selling prices of retail general consumption products on the free market, on the basis of suggestions of managers of economic enterprises; the selling prices of agricultural products which are sold by state commercial enterprises; and selling prices in hotel enterprises.

The federal price office must fix prices within 3 days; otherwise the economic enterprises concerned may begin to sell products at the prices suggested by them. The new price offices must be established within 30 days from the day; this decree went into effect (exact date not given)

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